

**MAUI INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE
MEETING**

Friday, May 19, 2000

9:00 AM – Noon

ATTENDANCE: Christy Martin, Philip Thomas, David Duffy, Melissa Dumaran, Trae Menard, Alison Dalsimer, Leslie Orzetti, Jack Peterson, Steve Anderson, Mark White, Fern Duvall, Joan Canfield, Lloyd Loope, Fred Kraus, Randy Bartlett, Mike Richardson, Bob Hobdy, Hans Schopen, Chuck Chimera, Earl Campbell, Forest Starr, Kim Martz, Renate Duvall, Anne Carter

- Call to Order by Randy Bartlett; MPC/Chair at 9:25 am

INTRODUCTION & WELCOME GUESTS:

- Guests = Alison Dalsimer from the DoD Legacy Program and Leslie Orzetti formerly with the DoD Legacy program and now on Maui doing stream research. Alison has been responsible for giving guidance and extensions. The Legacy Program was initiated by Congress for national resource and conservation work. Legacy gives about 15 million dollars per year in grants.
- Randy provided a brief overview of MISC for the guests. The origins of MISC go back to Betsy Gagne when she was working in the park for Resources Management. She first saw Miconia in Hana in 1991 and told Lloyd Loope. The Melastome Action Committee was formed so that different organizations could work together to combat Miconia. In 1997 the Committee decided to shift to a Maui County focus and widened the net to include other incipient aliens that had the potential to do as much or more damage as Miconia. The Maui model has been followed on the Big Island. There is an ISC forming on Oahu and there are plans to start one on Kauai with the hope that the model will be followed nationally.

MEETING NOTES APPROVED:

- The notes from the March 24, 2000 meeting look great. The notes were approved and will be posted.

BUDGET/FUNDING REPORTS:

Chairman's Legislative Funding Status Report (Randy Bartlett):

- We did well and will get approximately \$200,000 (about \$50,000 for bio-control). Fred Kraus is helping to divide the pot of money.

Washington DC Award Report (Melissa Dumaran):

- Melissa met with Senators in Washington. She was able to relay the work done from the money they have sent. Inouye was instrumental in getting charter money to start the National Tropical Botanical Garden. Melissa would like to get together a comprehensive 5 million dollar proposal to fund the Hawaii-wide ISCs tied in with CGAPS and specifically focused on invasives. There is separate proposal in that would get \$500 million dollars for Alaska, Florida, and Hawaii for invasive species control. Need to determine who will administer any monies received, etc.
- Lloyd mentioned that he would like to see the money go to the quarantine program instead of the ISCs. The quarantine program seems like something we could get and it is a critical link that's missing now. Federal money would be good for State and Interstate quarantine issues.
- CGAPS is trying to get together a comprehensive Hawaii need report already. There will be a better monetary estimate later in the year, but it has a ways to go. Melissa's proposal may be faster in the interim. There is a concern that they may not fund twice — they may want to do one big one with all the components. Melissa will attend the next CGAPS meeting to coordinate one or two separate proposals.
- Alison Dalsimer informed the group that the CARA bill is something we need to look at. Naomi Addelson is the contact person for the CARA bill (she can get the contact #). The Rockefeller Foundation is getting into funding conservation issues. Look into proposals that are long-term (i.e. \$50,000 over ten years) and make sure there is a coordinated effort to show that the program is comprehensive. Melissa asked about ways money has been spent in other states. Alison responded that with a lot of the partnerships they divvy up the money to bolster their own programs. The overall direction is driven by a steering committee. Others use a non-profit.
- Trae met with Gordon Brown on Friday. The McArthur Foundation is interested in innovative ways to work on invasives.
- We want to hone the ability of MISC to go after grant money and we need to make the investment now so that MISC can survive in the long-term. The alternative is to set aside time for people to do this work.

MISC Coordinator's Budget Report (Jack Peterson):

- Jack asked for committee approval to hire a grant writer/fund raiser/lobbyist/admin specialist to pursue some of the grants that are out there and to help us get dedicated funding from the legislature. There was a discussion concerning MISC's need to increase our efforts to obtain funding; since, we didn't budget this year for a grant writer, it was decided we can put it in next year's budget, which is due in November, and in any upcoming grant proposals.

- MISC is currently funded (with money in hand) to the 6th month of the year 2000. We have two more quarters of DLNR money (\$94,000) scheduled to come in. If the DLNR money is not distributed to us by the end of the year, it will not disappear since it is already committed. We have roughly \$128,000 to spend by the end of the year.

Status on Funding “How Much Money Does MISC Have?” for “next year”. (Mark White):

- Committed Funds:
 \$77,000 from Forest Service
 \$100,000 from Maui County
 \$46,000 from Fish & Wildlife Service
 \$50,000 from The Nature Conservancy (\$40,000 for Maui, \$10,000 for Molokai)
 \$212,000 from Legislature (tentatively \$212,000 for Maui, \$220,000 for Big Island;
 Both these numbers may go down further because it looks as if DLNR
 May try to pay the last \$47K owed for miconia control this year out of the
 \$500K appropriated for next year).

\$477,000 total for Maui

- Pending Funds:
 \$250,000 from McArthur Foundation
 \$100,000 from Legacy Extension NFWF (Nifwif)
- We need for calendar year 2001. Will be asking for \$1.4 million ask MISC, BIISC, and OISC (\$700,000 for each island). Maui is looking pretty good this year, but the Big Island is not looking so good. We have to start planning for next year’s budget and action plan. They need to be in by November. Will send out via email the summary of why we need the \$1.4 million statewide money.
- Jack asked if we could make the grant writing/fundraising position a joint position for all of the ISCs. Could start on this now and write it in on any funding requests.

Hana Crew Budget Status Report (Nathan Varnes, Sharon Souza):

- Received \$100,000 CDBG funding this year.
- We are in the process of closing the \$55,000 grant from Roz Baker’s office for the field crew. Working with NRCS on a \$20,000 grant to support the field crew that needs to be spent by Oct. 2000. Expect an agreement in one month. We plan to tap into this money before using the \$100,000 grant funds from the Board of Water Supply from 1999. The CDBG funding of \$100,000 will be the last funding we plan to spend.
- We are also applying for \$50,000 Miconia funding for the crew through the Office of Economic Development. The submittal is due in July. In the progress report we submitted to the Office of Economic Development we reported that from January to April 2000 the Miconia field crew has examined and treated 178 acres. Eight and a half miles of access roads were maintained by heavy equipment. A petition generated by MISC and

circulated at the Hana Taro Festival supporting Miconia eradication funds was also forwarded (approx. 117 local signatures).

CONSERVATION CONFERENCE UPDATE:

- There will be four brief talks in a breakout session. A discussion on forming a foundation to administer monies, etc. for ISCs will be part of the focused discussion during the break-out session on ISC's that is already scheduled.
The Conservation Conference committee is meeting Friday on Oahu. Please join them to help plan.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/EDUCATION REPORT (Christy Martin):

- Thanks to the folks who are keeping invasive species issues in the news. We received five phone calls from the Maui Island Weekly article on its first day out.
- We also received a call from the Hula Bowl organization. They read about MISC in the Honolulu Advertiser article and called us to see what they could do to help. Christy sent out an email to some folks to get some ideas about the best way to use this offer. Discussion at the meeting included having football players control Miconia, “stop the invasives now” stickers on the player’s helmets, picture/posters on the field, a Miconia spot with June Jones giving the game plan against Miconia, etc.
- Working on the invasive species module for schools. Christy had aimed to send a flyer to teachers by the end of May with the description of offerings, but that may not happen. Offerings would include an introductory slide show on Hawaii’s invasive species crisis given by YES or Christy. Teachers could then choose to do the Web activity or the ant mapping activity. I will send the first draft of the Web module to anyone who wants to look it over. The ant mapping activity is in conjunction with the curriculum being developed by Na Kumu o Haleakala.
- Working on Community Foundation grant.
- Randy added that we also need to plan for educating Legislators this summer or early fall. If we need to ask for \$1 million for next year, we need to work this out for all the ISCs. There was discussion of inviting Legislators to the Conservation Conference since the people associated with the ISCs will be there anyway. They wouldn’t even need to attend the sessions, but it would be a good time to meet and impress on them the movement. Randy will talk with Avery Chumbley to see if this might be a good idea and then will be in touch with others to try to plan — will aim to have something ready to go out by next meeting.

OISC FORMATION MEETING (Fred Kraus):

- The first meeting of the smaller coordinating group to discuss OISC participants will be on June 14. OISC targets will continue from Fountain Grass Working Group, etc.

USDA/CSREES Alien Risk Assessment Proposal (Joan Canfield/Earl Campbell):

- Asking for 4.8 million dollars --- The proposal aims to address the area of research leading to education and applied science.
 - ✓ Component 1 = Risk assessment: Looking at the Australian weed assessment technique and trying to adopt it for Hawaii. Also looking at the Australian animal assessment.
 - ✓ Component 2 = 15 positions total: Three positions developing control techniques (one for weed control, one for vertebrate control, and one for ant control). One position for a Forest/Kim type person, one invasive species extension agent to work with farmers for the entire state, and 2.5 FTE for education and outreach.
 - ✓ Component 3 = Control work: Funding for graduate students to work on some of these areas.
- **Overview from the Project Summary Sheet:**

Title: Research and Outreach for Prevention and Rapid Response to Invasions in Hawaii
PI: David Duffy PCSU, UH-Manoa
Co-PI: Earl Campbell, USDA-APHIS
Co-PI: Lloyd Loupe, USGS-BRD
Co-PI: Fred Kraus, DLNR/DOFAW
{Collaborators/consultants: Duane Nelson, USDA FS, Domingo Cravalho and Patrick Conant (HDOA), Dr. Joan Canfield (USGS/BRD), Dr. George Staples (Bishop Museum), Tim Tunison (NPS)}.

Project Summary: This proposal is focused on developing and refining measures for prevention of new invasions and rapid response to incipient invasions to protect Hawaii's biodiversity, economy, agriculture, health, and quality of life. The problems addressed and prospective solutions discussed and identified as high-priority over the past five years by Hawaii's Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) and its Island Invasive Species Committees for Maui and Hawaii. The measures proposed are intended to address gaps in information for selected major pathways of invasion from both foreign and domestic sources, and they are explicitly designed to simultaneously meld needed research with effective program implementation, building on efforts and institutions already in place. The project involves 1) Refinement of existing methodology for risk assessment for horticultural and vertebrate introductions, to the extent possible and with the aid of the industries involved; 2) research on early detection and control techniques to enhance timeliness and effectiveness of rapid response; and 3) providing outreach and education on invasive species issues through an extension person, education personnel, web-based information, and print media to assist agencies and partnerships active in addressing invasion problems and to obtain public buy-in required to effectively reduce and mitigate the alien species problem in the state.

MISC UPDATES (Jack Peterson):

Please see the MISC activity schedule attached (Mar. 24-May 19,2000)

- We had a booth at the Hana Taro Festival, and received a very good response. We had local input of observed Miconia locations marked (primarily by hunters) on two large maps of Hana and Keanae areas.

- Heli-ops: 8 missions flown , (10 days scheduled, had to cancel 2). The first two days were for fountain grass. No fountain grass was seen at Kanaio. Miconia searches were also completed (refer to map). There were some flowering trees found and there is a heli-spray operation scheduled next week to hit the flowering trees.

- Since the last meeting we have spent 14 days on Miconia (9738 plants, 507 seeding trees), 6.5 days on pampas grass (111 plants), and two days on fountain grass. Fifty-two ivy gourd plants were controlled and the crew is working on *Arundo*. We also checked Hana sites for frogs and spent one morning with Fern observing the parrots. The largest group of parrots was about two-dozen breeding pairs, as compared to over 70 breeding pairs previously observed in one group. This seems to indicate some fractionation and spreading out of the breeding colony.
- We are in the process of hiring a new MISC field crew member.
- Forest mentioned that we need to do an aerial survey for fountain grass over Kahului as we may be missing a bunch. Randy is going to follow-up on the burial site in Honokahau with ivy gourd on it reported by Jack Peterson.

VERTEBRATE UPDATES:

Caribbean Frogs (Earl Campbell):

- They are continuing to test caffeine and the dosage levels are good. Met with Lyle Wong and Bob B., to review lab data and determine what the next step is to get into the field. They will be applying for an emergency use permit so field trials can be conducted and will do a large-scale treatment of nurseries soon — will go in with high dosage and then whittle it down. Either DLNR or ISC will need to apply for a use permit in the future.
- On the Big Island problems with legal issues are beginning. Wal-Mart called to see if they are liable when they sell plants with frogs. The answer is yes; they are legally liable when they transport frogs from one place to another. We need to alert nurseries and others pointing out that it is illegal for nurseries to transport frogs intentionally or unintentionally. Will need to make sure everyone has been notified so that we have a future recourse. Is there a way to follow up on certifying nurseries—if there are frogs, no certification? Frogs are not on California import restrictions.
- Because of delays with the Dept of Agriculture money, MISC has given Earl the last of the MISC money earmarked for frog work.

Saffron Finch (Fern Duvall):

- Contact has been made with the individual and Fern and Christy will meet with her by next MISC meeting. The birds are getting ready to breed.

Parrot-Type Birds (Anne Carter, Earl Campbell):

- Anne Carter and Renate Duvall have been going out to study the parrots. There is one group of 46 birds and one group of 16. Twin Falls, Mile marker 5, etc. all have parrots. They are nesting at Huelo at about the 90 ft. level in the sea cliffs. From Huelo Point to Waipio Nui they are nesting in cracks. The birds are feeding in rose apple, mountain apple, java plum, and Christmas berry. They are currently in pairs and groups of three within the larger groups. We absolutely need to get specimens to determine exact species. Anne and Renate need to know what we want them to do next.

- Earl will be putting together a proposal and trying to get answers regarding what's next ASAP. Seabirds may be nesting in the area also. Will write in positions for four people.
- One of the things we need to do right now is to get as many people behind us on the parrot issue as possible. The first sighting was in 1986. The birds are very wide-ranging and are seen all the way out in Keanae and Kipahulu. This may not be the same population as above. The distribution is poorly known and we don't know the exact species. Two birds at a different location that were not mitered conures. We need to get a firm idea of the species involved.

Coatimundi (Fern Duvall):

- Five people saw the coati on Molokai — east end, just before Halawa Valley. Flyers have been distributed and the press may do an article. Private citizens cannot own coati.

MICONIA UPDATES

Hana Core (Bob Hobby):

- Our second pass is going well and we have aerial attack scheduled. There is a field day scheduled with YES on Saturday. Continuing to Work on garage site and getting a truck in the summer.

Bio-Control (Joan Canfield):

- There were a lot of folks from within and outside of Hawaii at the recent meeting — a lot of information sharing. There should be follow up to strategize on Miconia biocontrol. MISC should be pushing the issue of putting money towards biocontrol. Cliff Smith went to Costa Rica to look at biocontrol for Miconia. We should keep \$50,000 (from the legislative \$200,000) slated for bio-control.

BIISC Miconia Think Tank Report (Jack Peterson):

- Jack and Christy both attended the Miconia Think Tank on the Big Island —very valuable. Jack has scheduled a planning meeting on Maui to discuss Maui's Miconia Strategy, and to see what might need to be changed.
- Fred reported that during the meeting field day they visited sites and reviewed maps of their strategy and systematic planning. In comparison, Maui does not have a very good idea of where the periphery is. On Big Isle they also did a CGAPS Risk Assessment exercise at the meeting to discuss what the state needs to deal with Miconia.

Status of "Hawaii Forest and Rangeland Noxious Weed Control" Publication:

- Current cooperators include Kauai RC&D; Secretariat for Conservation Biology; Phil Motooka, CTAHR; Guy Nagai, HDOA; Duane Nelson, USDA-FS/BIISC/BIMAC; and Philip Thomas, HEAR.
- Philip is still trying to get photos of species for the publication. Send any and all pictures — even ones you think he already has. Watch the MISC list for details.

NEXT MEETING DATE/TIME

Friday, 6/30/00, 9a-12n

M.I.S.C. Activity Schedule
March 24 to May 19, 2000

- 3/24: MISC Meeting
3/27: Prince Kuhio Day Holiday
3/28: Office Work
3/29: Pampas Grass, Keokea, 45 plants pulled
3/30: Pampas Grass, Keokea, 10 plants pulled
3/31: Taro Festival Set-up, Hana
PM Frog Survey
- 4/1: Taro Festival, Community Outreach Booth
4/3: Office Work
Heli-ops, Fountain Grass, Kanaio, none found
4/4: Miconia, Keanae, 1 pulled
Heli-ops, Fountain Grass, Kanaio, none found
4/5: Miconia, Keanae w/ Daryl, 1 flowering; Wailua, 9 plants
Heli-ops, Fountain Grass, Kanaio, none found
4/6: Preparation for Pesticide Test
4/7: Pesticide Test
- 4/10: Pampas Grass, Olinda Water Treatment Facility, 17 plants
4/11: Miconia, Wailua w/ Pat Biley
4/12: Miconia, Wailua Nui Rd, 147 plants
4/13: Pampas Grass, Kula, 10 plants
BIISC Meeting, Jack and Christy
4/14: Pampas Grass, Kula
Alan Holt (TNC) visits MISC
- 4/17: Fountain Grass, Maui Lani
Heli-ops, Miconia, Jack/Steve/Chuck
4/18: Miconia, Hana Ranch w/ Hana Crew
4/19: Miconia, Hana Ranch w/ Hana Crew, over 2000 plants, 800 seeding (two days)
4/20: Heli-ops, Miconia & Fountain Grass, Maui Lani
4/21: Good Friday Holiday
4/22: MISC Exhibit, MCC Earth Day, Jack and Christy
- 4/24: Miconia, Hana Cinder Pit w/ Bob Getzens, 216 plants
Hel-iops cancelled
4/25: Miconia, Hana w/ Bob Getzens, 510 plants, 1 seeding
Heli-ops, Chuck/Bob H/Pat Bily
4/26: Office Work; Pampas Grass Survey, Kihei
Miconia Think Tank, Big Island, Jack and Christy
4/27: Pampas Grass, Olinda, 18 plants
Miconia Think Tank, Big Island, Jack and Christy
4/28: Office Work
4/29: Run for the Rain Forest, Proceeds to MISC

4/30: Teacher Workshop, MISC Office

5/1: Ivy Gourd, Kapalua w/ Randy, 160 plants

5/2: Miconia, Hana w/ Bob Getzens, 2542 plants

5/3: Miconia, Hana w/ Bob Getzens, 874 plants, 1 seeding
Long Range Planning Meeting, Jack and Christy

5/4: Heli-ops, EMWP fencing, Pampas, 30 plants counted, 11
pulled, 85 seed heads

5/5: Office Work; Supervisor Training, Jack and Hans

5/8: Miconia, Hana w/ Bob Getzens, 17 plants
Hosted Yvonne Baskin author

5/9: Miconia Hana w/ Bob Getzens, 28 plants, 3 seeding
Long Range Planning Meeting, Jack and Christy

5/10: Decontamination

5/11: Miconia, West Keanae Wall Recon.

5/12: Office Work, Decontamination

5/15: Fountain Grass/Pampas Grass, Maui Lani; Frog Flyers

5/16: Miconia, West Keanae Wall Recon.

5/17: Parrots, Huelo w/ Fern;
Office/Data/Errands/Maintenance

5/18: Study for Pesticide Test

5/19: MISC Meeting, Giant Reed Test Plots